

WE ARE "GREAT BECAUSE WE
ARE GOOD"

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, as we observe the remembrance of September 11th, it is my hope that the citizens of the United States will honor the legacy of those who lost their lives and pay tribute to their survivors in time honored American ways . . . like helping others in need, saying a kind word to a stranger, volunteering at a homeless shelter or sending relief to people around the world who we may never even meet. After all, our country is not great because of our military strength, our free enterprise system or even our right to vote (as awesome as these qualities are!). America is great as we give more than we take and as we are willing to serve and sacrifice for others.

We now know countless stories of heroism and remarkable bravery—passengers on flight 93 that had the courage to stand up to terrorists giving their lives to protect hundreds of others, a Lieutenant Colonial who died trying to get his co-workers to safety or a firefighter who ran up the stairs of a building that was coming down on top of him. Although they didn't sign up to fight in the trenches of the War on Terrorism, fire fighters, EMT's, law enforcement officers, medical professionals and even airline passengers were willing to lay down their lives for people they had never even met.

The sacrifice and courage of our first responders on September 11th caused a swell of pride in all Americans, of every generation. What we witnessed when America came under attack was comparable to the noble actions of the "Greatest Generation" veterans on D-day when they stormed the beaches of Normandy or in the lonely courage of American heroes in the jungles of Vietnam.

The United States of America is at her best not when the Dow Jones average is above 10,000 points, or when we land on the moon, but when our citizens are willing to sacrifice themselves so that others might be secure.

I participated in a historic joint-session of Congress at Federal Hall in New York City, laid a wreath at Ground Zero and spoke at a memorial service in a Brooklyn church. On Wednesday, September 11th I attended the National Memorial Service at the Pentagon with President George W. Bush and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. That evening I listened with the rest of the world to President Bush speak about this past year and America's security in an unstable world.

As we bow our heads in respect, let us all be committed to honoring our country and those that have gone before us by giving of ourselves to help others. After all, every day of life is a gift from God and none of us know which might be our last. Let us stay united and make the most of every day!

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, good afternoon. I'm proud to stand up today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 472 that recognizes the 100th anniversary of the 4-H Youth Development Program.

Both my wife and I, who I met when we were both Minnesota State 4-H Ambassadors, were born and have lived in rural Minnesota most of our lives.

Until graduating from college, I never lived in a town with more than one thousand people.

4-H enables kids to have fun, meet new people, learn new lifeskills, build self-confidence, learn responsibility, and set and achieve goals!

I will now recite the 4-H pledge

I pledge: My head to clear thinking; my heart to greater loyalty; my hands to larger service; my health to better living; for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

The World would do well to live by this pledge.

DEBORAH HORWITZ 2002 COLONEL
IRVING SALOMON HUMAN RELATIONS
AWARD WINNER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Deborah Horwitz for her selection as the 2002 Colonel Irving Salomon Human Relations Award recipient and in recognition of her outstanding community and civic leadership.

A native of Evanston, Illinois, Deborah received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University and Master's Degree from Northwestern University. Deborah has devoted her life to her two passions: her family and the community.

Deborah served as President of the San Diego Chapter of the American Jewish Committee (1988–91) and has actively participated on many national AJC training institutes, commissions and task forces. She currently serves on the Boards of AJC's Belfer Center for American Pluralism and AJC's Project Interchange. She has also been appointed as a National Vice President of the American Jewish Committee—the first San Diegan to hold this honored position.

Deborah is also the Founder and former President of EdUCate!, a non-profit foundation supporting local public schools which is still being used as a model in other communities. In 1999, she was recognized for her support of public education and received the California Woman of the Year Award from the California State Legislature.

In addition, Deborah was on the founding steering committee of the San Diego County United Jewish Federation Task Force on Jewish Continuity and, during her five years of

service, assisted with the creation of several successful community-building projects.

Deborah currently serves on the boards of the Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies at San Diego State University and the Northwestern University Alumni Club of San Diego. She is a founding member of the San Diego Women's Foundation, whose mission is to educate women about philanthropy and to improve the greater San Diego community through intelligent, focused giving.

Deborah Horwitz exemplifies a true leader of our community. I offer my congratulations to her on the receipt of the prestigious 2002 Colonel Irving Salomon Human Relations Award.

REMARKS DELIVERED ON THE
FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF SEP-
TEMBER 11, 2002

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we come here today, as one community, to reflect on the events of September 11, 2001. On that terrible day, a group of evil men murdered more than 3,000 innocent American men, women, and children—here on American soil—as their co-conspirators attempted to kill thousands more.

Today, we still mourn the loss of our fellow citizens: those trying to reach safety and those who deliberately placed themselves in harms way (who saved literally tens of thousands of their fellow Americans in the process). We will also never forget those who were injured and who are still suffering from the wounds, physical and emotional, that were inflicted upon them. We will never forget the heroism and sacrifice of those—many of whom are with us today—who responded immediately and selflessly, who prevented a terrible ordeal from being even worse.

While we will always continue to remember what happened, we must also continue our nation's effort to bring to justice and punish those who perpetrated these terrible acts and those who are planning new ones. Government's first priority is, after all, to protect the people, and as your representative in Congress, I assure you that Congress is working to see that our government meets our country's needs for our homeland security and for our national defense: from strengthening our borders, to improving law enforcement and intelligence capabilities, to ensuring that our military is fighting with superior forces and weapons. We never forget that we Americans depend on our government to protect us.

We are forever grateful to the men and women in law enforcement and in our armed forces, here and around the world, who put their lives at risk so that we may keep our country and her people safe and free.

Is America a perfect nation? Are we as individuals perfect people? No, America is not perfect, and none of us has ever met a perfect person. But what we have in America is the greatest nation the world has ever known—a country committed to freedom, democracy, and equal justice under the law. An imperfect country, but one whose principles of freedom of speech and expression allow us and even demand us to continually seek to make our